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J THE
JUSTIFICATION,

A
S A T I R E.

Vindicating the CHARACTER of a much-injured
NOBLEMAN.

To which is annexed,

A LETTER to a certain Great DUKE;

Interspersed with REFLECTIONS on the *Love of our Country,*
and *private Pique and Resentment.*

To which is likewise added,

A N

A D D R E S S

T O T H E

PEOPLE of ENGLAND.

In which the CONDUCT of

Lieut. Gen. Lord *George Sackville*

Is properly considered;

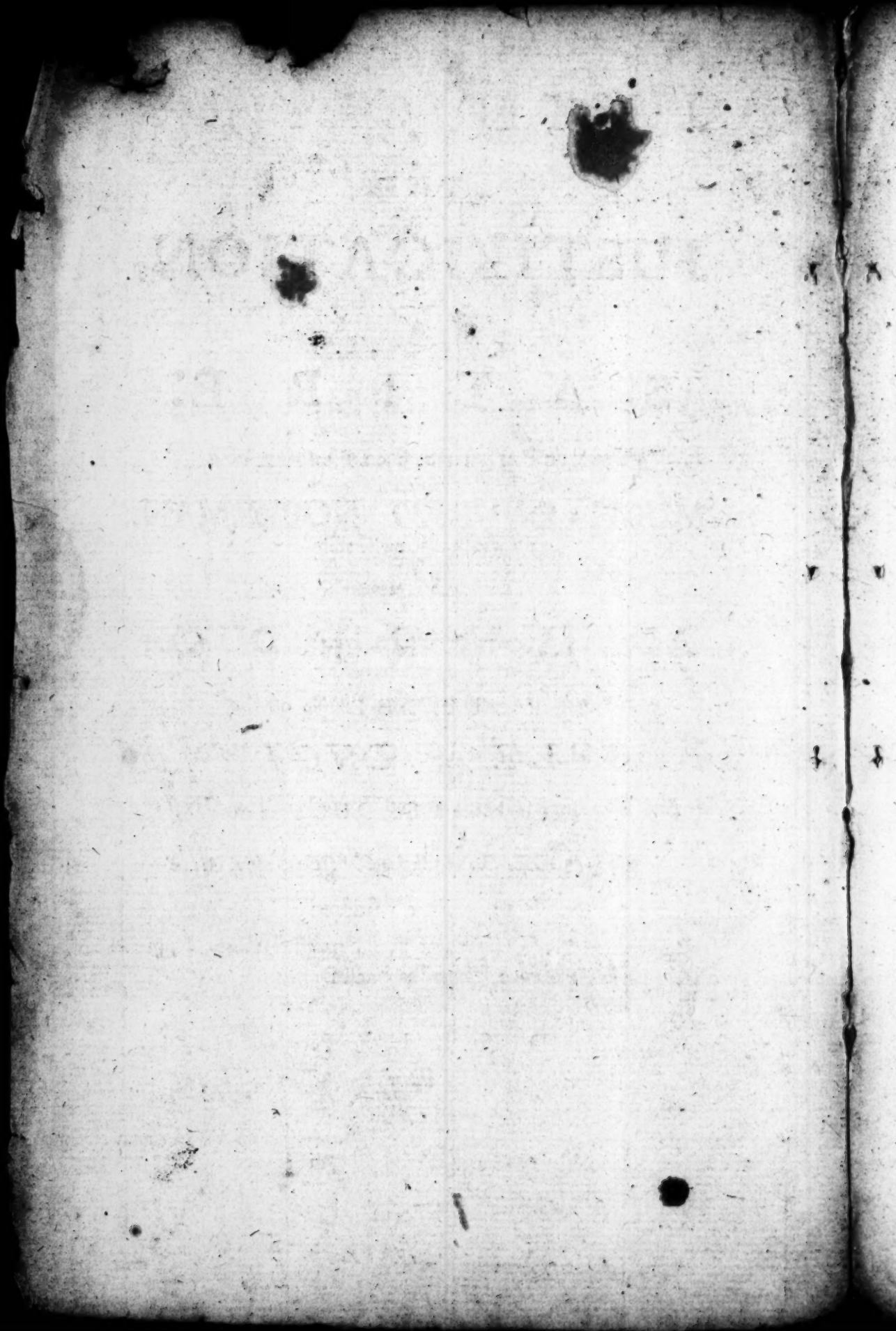
At once to silence, by the Voice of Truth, the Cries of
Falseness, Scurrility, and Dulness.

D U B L I N:

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1759



THE
JUSTIFICATION,
A
SATIRE:

VINDICATING the CHARACTER of a
MUCH-INJURED NOBLEMAN.

To which is annex'd,

A LETTER to a certain great DUKE;

Intersperfed with REFLECTIONS on the
LOVE OF OUR COUNTRY,
And PRIVATE PIQUE and RESENTMENT.

By a GENTLEMAN of the *Middle-Temple*.

Hear all, and then let Justice hold the Scale.

*I hate the Man who builds a Name
On Ruin of another's Fame.*

THE
JUSTIFICATION
OF
S A T I R E:
VINDICATING THE CHARACTER OF A
MUCH-INJURED NOBLEMAN.

By a Gentleman of the Middle Temple.
In a Letter to a certain great DUKE;
CONTAINING OBSERVATIONS ON THE
LOVE OF OUR COUNTRY,
AND THE FIDELITY AND RESPECT DUE
TO A GOVERNOR OF THE PEOPLE.
LONDON, Printed by J. B. 1711.

THE
JUSTIFICATION,
A
SATIRE.

I.

MY Lord, the stabbers of your fame,
Are cowards;—'tis an odious name:
The muse knew what they sneer'd at:
Shall you, deriv'd of noble blood,
Shall you, so hon'rabl and good,
Be satyriz'd and jeer'd at?

II.

The common man who slays for pay,
And earns his paltry groat a-day,
With you were on a level;
Were you oblig'd, like him to fight,
Without confid'ring wrong from right;
My Lord, heigh—what the devil!

III. They

III.

They tell us tales how you stood still,
 While GRANBY rag'd the French to kill;
 But what's all this I pray, fir?
 'Tis happiness, they can't say more;—
 This comfort still you have in store,
 You never ran away, fir.

IV.

Philosophers, and men of sense,
 Observe, that people most propense
 To fighting, seldom do it;
 While he that's cool, with cautious care,
 Approves himself true glory's heir,
 And wades through slaughter to it.

V.

Now this, my Lord, is just your Case;
 GRANBY star'd danger in the face;
 You waited for a fair-tide;
 But were the Prince and he so mad
 To beat 'em ere you fir'd, egad,
 I think the fault's on their side.

VI.

'Tis said soon after famous COPE,
 Once on a time the nation's hope,
 Had flown from *Preston Pans*, firs,
 And told at *Berwick* upon *Tweed*,
 His own dear self,—“ We're thresh'd indeed;
 “ We're routed by the Clans, firs;”

VII.

A matron sage, of pur-blind sight,
Accosted thus the peerless knight:

“ Heav’n pour its blessings on you!
“ For, oh, you sav’d my darling joy;
“ Your namesake, sir, a strapping boy,
“ My son and heir, my Johnny.”

VIII.

That, said the gen’ral, sure was kind;—
But art thou, woman, in thy mind?
Or woud’st excite my laughter?
Truth, cry’d the matron’s all I say,
For when your honour ran away,
My Johnny follow’d after:

IX.

But this my Lord’s on you no slur;
Both armies know you scorn’d to stir,
But like a hero staid it;
Who says you did not all you cou’d—
You sav’d a vast expence of blood,
Nay, FERDINAND has said it.

X.

But conduct shou’d o’er courage reign;—
Perhaps, among the mighty slain,
Your Lordship had been soon down;
And had not liv’d to tell your tale,
Home to the face of all who rail,
At *Kensington* or *London*.

XI. Let

XI.

Let GRANBY glory in the post,
 (The world say He deserves it most)
 As pleas'd at it as can be;
 "Will honour set a leg or arm?"——
 Perhaps the very next alarm
 May prove the fate of GRANBY.

XII.

But you, heav'n knows, may still survive,
 To see your native country thrive;
 Her blasted fame recov'ring,
 May joy in many peaceful days,
 And shine at courts, and balls, and plays,
 If so shou'd please our sov'reign.

XIII.

Be sure, no more risque precious life;
 Have nought to do with martial strife,
 And always dread a trench-man.
 Ingratitude its race must run,—
 No soldier praises all you've done,
 Unless he be a Frenchman.

XIV.

Suppose your Lordship take the gown;
 You know that some years since 'twas done,
 Much on the same occasion;
The learn'd are cowards: 'tis agreed;
 Then you must certainly succeed,
 So venture consecration.

XV. Your

XV.

Your virtues none can call in doubt,
 Nor morals, unimpeach'd throughout,
 By gaming, whoring, drinking;
 Was e'er your sword in blood imbru'd?
 Was ever nymph betray'd you woo'd?
 - You've better ways of thinking.

XVI.

Tho' justice be the gen'ral cry,
 Your Lordship knows, as well as I,
 That 'tis not consequential;
 Then let the nation smile or frown,
 Your Sire's a fav'rite of the Crown:
 That point's your most essential.

XVII.

The fount of mercy, 'tis confess,
 Flows in our gracious monarch's breast;
 Oh, be his arms victorious!
 But as the brave to him are dear,
 So hated are the slaves of fear,
 Who'd make his reign inglorious.

A N
E P I S T L E
T O

His Grace the DUKE of *DORSET*.

May it please your Grace,

IT is most certain, that there is a duty and love due to our country; 'tis true, in these modern times, this is what is very little known, and much less thought on; every one now views the public as a property, a dupe of which he is to make the most he can, without regard to the interest, or, even, safety of the public; not but that we frequently hear a mighty noise about the public good, and have loud clamours against the administrations of men in power: but this is generally made by those who are out of place, only to get in, that they may do worse than even those who went before them; and prove that the national interest is the least thing in question; and that all the struggle is, who shall bubble the nation. And this, in reality, is the ground of all our political quarrels: and the differences among those whose duty 'tis to unite for the general cause in defence of their country; most of the alterations that have been made in the persons who have possess'd our offices of trust and power, have only been to shift hands, and not to get rid of the evil: whether we are govern'd by asses or
foxes

foxes is immaterial; a horse tires sooner under an ill rider, than a good one.

THERE was another spirit among the antient Greeks and Romans; they had another notion of the love of their country; it was a point of their religion to serve it without private prospects: and Tully tells us, “ There is in heaven a certain and fix’d place, “ where all those who have either preserv’d, help’d, “ or enlarg’d their country, enjoy eternal happiness.” Thus they made eternal happiness the reward of being a good patriot, and I presume of a good soldier, indeed, upon very good grounds, upon sovereign reason; for since human society is the evident institution of heaven itself, it seems a natural consequence, that those who contribute most to the good and benefit of that, have the best claim to the favour of heaven; and as human society in general is divided into several particular societies, and that each particular has its proper interest to pursue distinct from that of the general, and incompatible with several of those which make up that general; it necessarily follows, that the duty of particulars to society is bounded by the good of that society, of which each is a member, and in particular, when one member has the command of the whole; as I apprehend a general has of his army.

I REMEMBER that there is, in the fragments of the divine Euripides, a saying to this purpose, “ That “ he who praises the manners of another country, “ has in that betray’d his own:” and this saying is grounded on the very nature of things; for we cannot praise the manners of another country, without thinking them better than those of our own; and when
we

we once give that preference, we are easily drawn in to espouse the interest of that country against our own, as of less value and esteem in our own opinion.

BUT to produce this love of our country, it is necessary that the constitution of this country, by being valuable, should deserve this love; that is, it should be calculated so evidently for the good and happiness of those who constitute this society, that not to defend it, would be to act against that happiness which all mankind desire. Human nature covets liberty, and where that is established, it will be defended by every member, as long as they think justly. But liberty, you'll say, is a word of a dubious signification: what therefore I mean by liberty, is that the society be govern'd by laws, made by the consent of every particular, either in himself or in his representative, and not by the arbitrary will of any one man, which never can have, or, at least, never had a due and just regard to the good and happiness of the people.

IT always has been in states constituted in this manner, where this love I speak of has been eminent and so sacred, that very few have ever dared to go against it, though under never so uneasy circumstances and sufferings from it. Thus when Themistocles was banish'd Athens by Ostracism, for no other crime than his popularity, he fled into Persia, and was receiv'd very favourably by the great king, and the revenue of three cities allotted him for his maintenance; and so an opportunity was offer'd him of revenging his disgrace upon his country. For the great king having a mind once more to try the power of Persia against the petty state of Athens, which
had

had hitherto still worsted his armies; he declar'd Themistocles his general, under whose conduct he did not doubt of better success; but that brave hero, unable to refuse the command, rather chose to poison himself, than lead an enemy against his country. Had he done even that, would he have been more culpable than one who can stand as a tacit observer when his native land requires his assistance?

THIS love of our country and liberty, was so settled and sacred a principle among the Grecians, that they establish'd public rewards for any man that should kill a tyrant: thus we find in Lucian a contest betwixt two who pretended to this reward.

AMONG a thousand instances of eminent Grecians, whom history has recorded as wonderful patriots, I think there is scarce one more remarkable and touching than that of Timoleon. His brother had usurp'd the sovereignty of Corinth; Timoleon had a true brotherly love for him; yet he not only endeavour'd to hinder him from this usurpation, but often persuaded him to restore the liberty of his country, to no purpose: however, he gave this signal proof of his natural kindness for his brother, that he brought him off when overpower'd by his enemies in battle, even with the hazard of his own life: But yet, as dear as his brother was to him, the liberty of his country was much dearer; and therefore he headed a conspiracy to redeem its freedom with the loss of his brother's life, he being in the room while the rest dispatch'd him. He pass'd twenty years after this before he was taken notice of by the state; but then agents coming from Syracuse, to solicit the Corinthians

thians to send forces into Sicily, to deliver them from the tyranny of Dionysius, they rais'd three thousand men, and sent Timoleon to command them. He arrived in Sicily and set the Syracusans free; and to prevent any future usurpation, utterly destroyed the citadel which commanded the city, and was always the seat of the tyrant, and kept the city in awe! but the benefits that Syracuse had receiv'd from him, and the general love of the people for those benefits, were not sufficient to secure him from the malicious and envious tongues of a few of that city, who brought a public accusation against him. The people of Syracuse were so enrag'd at their impudence, that they would have destroy'd them, had not Timoleon himself interpos'd. ' No, gentleman, (said he) let them ' proceed in this legal manner; for this have I fought, ' that no man should be too great to be accus'd. I ' will answer their accusation; and if I clear not myself ' to the people of this city of the crimes they lay to my ' charge, let me undergo the penalty of the law.' In short, he was heard, and came off with applause; happy cou'd every accus'd Englishman do they like.

THERE is another instance among the Romans, where the power of natural affection was too weak to combat with the love of the country; and that was in Lucius Junius Brutus, who, to fix the liberty of Rome, put to death two of his own sons, and several of his near relations. I shall not mention Virginus's stabbing of his daughter, by which he put an end to the tyranny of the Decemviri; since that action may seem to proceed from another cause, than the immediate service of his country, which was to save his daughter from being vitiated by Appius, one of the
the

the ten, who out of lust had brought false evidence to swear that Virginia was his slave, and not the daughter of Virginius. This, indeed, was the cause that the Romans threw off the tyrannous government of the Decemviri, and restor'd the consuls. What shall I say of Fabricius, who refused the Gold of Pyrrhus, because he would not touch a present from an enemy, tho' nothing was requir'd on his part but to accept it?

CURTIVS sacrificed himself for the good of Rome, where a great chasm happening to open in the earth, whence issued unwholesome vapours, he jump'd into it alive to make it close again, as the oracle had promis'd. It would be endless to run over all the instances of this kind, that the Roman history affords us before the corruption of Rome, by the conquests and effeminacy of Asia. I shall content myself only with that of Regulus, in the Carthaginian war, who was taken prisoner, and carry'd to Carthage: that state grew uneasy by the war with the Romans, and therefore sent Regulus to Rome on his parole, to return again to Carthage, provided he could not prevail with the Roman people to make peace: when he came to Rome, he was so far from persuading them to peace, that he exhorted them to continue the war, since the state of their enemies affairs was so desperate, that they had no way of securing it, and putting a stop to the progress of the Roman arms, but by a peace. Having effected his desire, he return'd to Carthage, contrary to the earnest importunities of his friends, and was there put to a very torturing death, being inclos'd in a barrel driven full of nails, or iron spikes, and so roll'd down a hill: which

which cruelty the Romans afterwards sufficiently reveng'd, by the destruction of their city.

THESE are sufficient to give your Grace an idea of the taste of the antients: no animosity between superior officers, no private connections, cou'd warp their integrity; it was not who commanded, but who obey'd: and though the passions of mankind were perhaps the same in those ages as in the present, though doubtless, love and hatred might have existence, yet in a national sense all were friends; fond to unite in one great cause, the defence and honour of their country.

YOUR Grace's firm attachment to our present happy constitution, every Briton is gratefully sensible of: may that power who governs all things, long indulge us with a life so dear, for the good of the nation; that injur'd innocence may break forth, like the sun from a cloud, more eradiated; and impartial justice be always administer'd to the guilty, is the sincere prayer of him, who is, with the highest veneration,

Your Grace's unknown,

humble servant,

PHILO-BRITANNICUS.

F I N I S.

AN
ADDRESS
TO THE
People of *England* ;

In which the CONDUCT of
Lieut. Gen. Lord *George Sackville*

Is properly considered ;

At once to silence, by the Voice of Truth, the
Cries of Falshood, Scurrility, and Dulness.

——— *The People imagine a vain Thing.*

A D D R E S S

TO THE

People of England;

IN WHICH THE CONDUCT

OF THE LATE LORD GEORGE DUNSTON

IS PROPOSED TO BE

REVIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF THE
PRINCIPLES OF MORALITY AND JUSTICE.

— BY J. P. DUNSTON, ESQ.

A N

A D D R E S S

T O T H E

P E O P L E of E N G L A N D.

IF exalted rank be in some measure an object to attract the eyes of envy, in so much, as that those persons who are born to it, derive from thence an advantage superior to what generally falls to the bulk of mankind, by being empowered to display their virtues, and exert their abilities, in the fairest and most conspicuous light.

On the other hand, the possessors of it are certainly no less the objects of compassion, as they lie most open to the censure and malignity of perverse and violent dispositions, who are continually on the watch, to try if they can take them at any unguarded hour making a false step; and are ever ready to lay hold of their faults, nay, their very errors, to pull them down, and reduce them to a level with the herd of the community.

In this, no doubt, those people whose birth and fortune have placed them in the vales, rather than on the eminences of life, are infinitely to be envied before them, and may justly hug themselves in that inferiority, which, while it renders them less distinguished, renders them at the same time more free, more safe, and more befriended.

But if men in trust and power were only to answer for their faults and errors (though even then, I doubt, there would be very often more of the spirit of malice, than justice, in their prosecutors and accusers) there would be very little room either to plead in their favour, or commiserate their sufferings: since even errors themselves may be attended with such fatal consequences, as, in the eye of a state, to place them in the light of the highest, and most atrocious malefactions.

But is this really the case? and are faults and errors all that men in such conditions have to avoid, and guard against? alas! by no means: the slightest breath of rumour, is sometimes sufficient to raise such a storm against them, as nothing but their lives can pacify. To be suspected, is to be guilty; and from that moment their high stations are only considered as so many pillories, where they stand more fully exposed to the scoffs and cruelty of an enraged populace.

In such circumstances, even where demerit is acknowledged, humanity would be apt to separate the crime from the man, and while the
justice

justice must be approved, shudder at the punishment. But what must be his thoughts, I would be glad to know, (supposing him first to be possessed of that same virtue humanity) who should not only see the blameless, but the praise-worthy, treated after this manner, like the vilest delinquent? I am sure his heart must be steeled with more than common brutality, who, in such circumstances, did not sympathize with Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE, and be as forward to discourage, as he would be backward to lend assistance, or foment the outrages of such an injurious rabble.

If the writer of this address should own that he has had the honour of being in company more than *once* with Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE, it would be afterwards in vain for him to assert that he was not prejudiced in his favour; for it is one among the many extraordinary advantages possessed by that nobleman, that as none but strangers to him are his enemies, so nobody who has ever been acquainted with him but must be his friend: and perhaps if he did not know his Lordship to be one of the most humane, the most generous, and most honourable men in the world, the least apt to commit injuries, and the most ready to pardon them, he might not now be employing a pen in his defence: though at the same time he could not help being perfectly sensible, that in the present charge against him, no man living was ever more unjustly censured.

It

It would be needless to observe here, and endless to enumerate, the many various forms in which the spawn of Grub-street have escaped from their garrets, since the first appearance of those so very *extraordinary* orders and acknowledgements of Prince FERDINAND of BRUNSWICK.

No sooner were they made public, and the world began to imagine from thence that a general officer, and that no less a one than the commander in chief of his majesty's forces, had misbehaved in Germany, than the sewers of falshood and scurrility were immediately broken up, and such heaps of filth and rubbish came down the kennels of dulness, as deluged the whole town.

Every stale conjecture, every dead scandal; all the excrements of folly, and the stinking of fals swept from coffee and beer-houses, have from that time to this been wafted about in pamphlets, equally to the disgrace of human wit, decency, and common-sense.

However, it is by no means strange, I grant, that such compositions should be written; a corrupt heart, a weak head, or an empty stomach, may easily account for that: but how such compositions should be read, I own, appears to me not a little extraordinary; for I am unwilling to ascribe it to a mere lust for personal slander.

It is really surprizing to see how perpetually
and

and how successfully the publick are deceived upon those occasions, by malicious or indigent scribblers; a set of wretches, in my opinion, infinitely more contemptible than the pickpockets that ply about the streets: neither one nor the other owing any thing to ingenuity, but merely to the *use of their hands*; however, there is this difference in favour of the latter, that he may rob you, without being obliged at the same time to do an injury to another, in order to bring it about.

The anonymous libeller is not only a robber in the worst degree, (*he that filches from us our good name*) but does all in his power to become a murderer also, by raising a popular clamour, to which the blood of the innocent is too often made a sacrifice.

Were the bluntness of their weapons, indeed, any security from being wounded by those stabbers in the dark, there is no man but what would smile at their attacks; but they are often found to mangle in such a manner, as to render the wounds they give incurable.

Neither the insipidity of their nonsense, the known falsehood of their aspersions, the hackneyed arguments which they make use of; nor, in short, all the apparent marks of ignorance and imposture which they carry, is sufficient to prevent their productions from being raked into, and the contents not only remembered but repeated;

peated; not only considered with patience, but swallowed with avidity.

Is it not then a deplorable case, that there should be no defence from the venom of such reptiles? Is their dirt to be their security? and shall they be suffered, unmolested, to crawl from every hole and corner, and shed their poisonous filth upon all characters, however sacred and respectable.

But there is one way which those scribblers have of injuring a person, who, either through misapprehension, or misfortunes, become the object of public inquiry, that is almost peculiar to themselves:—the way I mean is, by defending them.

This at first view seems a good-natured, a justifiable, and not only so, but a praise-worthy attempt; but if we consider that those people, in every respect, are absolutely incapable of performing the task they undertake, that they are not only totally in the dark, with regard to the truth of facts, by which means they are obliged, either to give the hackneyed reports of the town, or invent absurdities out of their own heads, which they also want the arts of argument to qualify. If we consider this, I say, and than a weak defence is worse than none, we shall find, that the friend and the enemy is equally pernicious, and their flatterer as dangerous as their bite.

But

But this is not all, those people frequently write a defence only to make work for themselves, by answering it again, which they usually do in two or three days after it comes out, with all the impudence and invective imaginable: nay, I have been assured, that in some late occurrences a printer has had, at one and the same time, two pamphlets in the press upon different sides of the question, which were both written by one man, and designed to be popped out in the manner above-mentioned.

The trade of pamphleteering has never, within my recollection, been carried on in a manner more extensive than at present; nor do I remember, that the dealers in it were ever more abominable cheats. I dwell the longer upon this article, therefore, to caution the public against being cajoled, and taken in, by such impostors for the future.

For I doubt not but many well-meaning people have been led to imagine, that when they gave their sixpence or shilling for this or that Defence, Letter, or Scrutinization, they were going to dip into something, which came directly from the fountain-head: whereas, I can assure them, that nothing genuine has yet appeared in print with relation to the conduct of a late noble general: his accusers and defenders are alike both unknown to, and unemployed by him; and I dare swear their productions have alike flowed from the same source, the mercenary pens of uninterested, uninstructed scribblers.

D

I could

I could not help smiling the other day, when upon going into a coffee-house, one of the first things I cast my eyes upon after having sat down, was a pamphlet entitled, *A Letter to a late Noble Commander of the British Forces in Germany.*

I had the curiosity to cast my eyes over it, and that being satisfied, was about to lay it down, again; but my opposite neighbour, who by his dialect, I found to be a Scotsman, stopping my hand, cried, “ Weel, Sir, what think you o’ yon pawmphlet?” I gave him such an answer as I thought most pertinent to the question he asked, and he proceeded.

“ Egode Sir, (quo’ he) let me tell you its a “ smart weel written piece, and he was e’en a “ d——’d clever fellow that pend it.” Aye, thought I, a phenomenon, as your countryman M’Ruthen says. I suppose, Sir, said I, you are acquainted with the author then: pray, who might the gentleman have been?

“ Hoot man, (quo’ he) dinna ye ken that ? “ Egode, I think the steel’s e’en enough to point “ him out till any one.” I signified my want of apprehension to distinguish by that token, and the obligations I should lie under to him, if he would condescend to inform my want of judgment.

Upon which, rising from his seat, stretching himself over the table, and thrusting his nose in my ear, “ What think you of maister,” (here he mentioned

mentioned the name of the greatest man in England, both for worth and abilities) "Tak it
 " from me, Sir, (added he) most people repute
 " him to be the o'ther o'it; and I think 'tis ne
 " much unleek his manner."

I was too prudent to drop a word that might tend to invalidate the judgment of so profound a critic: without attempting, therefore, to obviate what my North-Briton advanced, I took my hat, and leaving him in quiet possession of his opinion, immediately went to purchase the pamphlet, intending to give it a thorough and more serious perusal.

This I have since done, and indeed the gentleman sets out with such a gravity in his stile, and his profession of zeal for the honour and welfare of his country; which he assures the noble person he has thought proper to direct his letter to, is the only thing that prompts him to such a proceeding, is delivered with such an air of being *some body*, that if, from many signs I did not discover him to be *no body* (as the phrase is) or what's the same thing, a hired scribbler, I might perhaps be tempted to imagine he was a man of consequence, or *any body*—but the person mentioned by my coffee-house politician.

This writer puts me in mind of a piece of great humour, often practised by some droll fellows, who send several large packets by the general post, directed to different people: they pay

the postage (which is by this means increased) very willingly, hoping it has brought them something material; but when they come to open their letters, behold you, they find nothing but *two or three sheets of scribbled papers.*

I cannot help transcribing and commenting upon a few paragraphs from this intelligent correspondent's very genteel and florid epistle.

‘ No one can condemn the zeal which inspires
 ‘ us with resentment against delinquents, who
 ‘ betray the honour, and abandon the interest of
 ‘ their country. The principle is noble; “ but
 ‘ we certainly ought to be careful in what man-
 ‘ ner we direct it. Our indignation should not
 ‘ transport us so far as to take facts for grant-
 ‘ ed, before they are proved in a legal examina-
 ‘ tion.

To this let me add, that it is not the part of an honest man, to propagate the report of such facts. To pick up all the rash rumours that fly about a town, in relation to an affair, the truth of which he knows nothing of, and do all in his power to give them weight and consequence, by his grave manner of recapitulating them.

After paying a just, though somewhat fustian, compliment to the troops sent by the government to Germany, he tells his Lordship, “ that
 “ the command of these chosen bands devolved
 “ upon him.”

“ Had

“ Had the public choice directed the appoint-
 “ ment, perhaps no one could have been found
 “ more likely to discharge the important duty
 “ with HONOUR, SKILL, and FIDELITY. De-
 “ scended from one of the noblest stocks in the
 “ kingdom; one eminently distinguished for
 “ loyalty; and yourself honoured with the con-
 “ fidence of your sovereign, *who could suspect*
 “ *you of Disaffection?* Having been tried in action,
 “ and your firmness extolled, *who could doubt*
 “ *your courage?* of which it is said, you bear ho-
 “ nourable marks; where it is a soldier's pride
 “ to shew them—in your breast. From the
 “ proofs you had given of your abilities here,
 “ and in a neighbouring kingdom, *who could*
 “ *doubt your capacity?*”

It is worthy of memorial, that every circum-
 stance in this paragraph, relative to Lord
 GEORGE SACKVILLE, is literally true: his
 very enemies are obliged to own it.

He has been at once the favourite of his sove-
 reign, the hope of his own noble family, and a
 person equally esteemed and admired by the
 public. His courage has been tried in more
 than one action, in which it has been found so
 far from wanting, that he has rather been apt to
 run into danger more than was necessary.—
 He has been wounded several times.

His abilities have been, and are so universally
 acknowledged, that it would look like a piece
 of fulsome flattery to mention them here. And
 yet

yet this writer would fain bring him under the suspicion of either DISSAFFECTION, COWARDICE, or ERROR in JUDGMENT, or all three; which he says, "Circumstances declare him culpable of, and that in such a degree, as to leave no excuse that offers itself to an unbiassed judgment."

Certainly this writer must be an admirable logician, who has such a happy knack of assigning causes for effects: nor can we enough admire how subtly he treats his subject, and with what nice dexterity he preserves the see-saw in the arrangement of his arguments.

He informs my Lord (in great friendship) what the world reports of him; and what facts, notoriously public, afford more than grounds to suspect, is true. Thus, says he (in heroics) "*The tongue of public report tells the black tale against you.*"

"It is said that on the first of August, when the confederate army was drawn up against the forces of France, &c. on that signal day when the action grew warm, and became worthy of your interposition, it is said that his Highness Prince Ferdinand, the commander in chief, dispatched one of his aids de camp to you, with orders for you to attack a particular body of the enemy's troops.

"Instead of an instant compliance with these orders, it is reported, you hesitated, and at length

“ length intimated, that there must be some mis-
 “ take in the delivery, or injunction of these or-
 “ ders. On the aid de camp’s persisting to repeat
 “ them, it is said, (which I own is scarce cre-
 “ dible) that your confusion carried you so far,
 “ that you inconsiderately asked the aid de camp,
 “ whether the orders he brought were in writ-
 “ ing.

“ Upon his answering, with some surprize, in
 “ the negative, you are farther reported to have
 “ added, That you would speak to the Prince
 “ yourself. Before you could find an oppor-
 “ tunity of addressing his Highness, however,
 “ the occasion for which your service was re-
 “ quired was irretrievably lost, &c. &c.”

Thus does this man proceed in bringing a horrid
 charge against his lordship, founded on popular
 report; but he has not done yet.—He adds,

“ When the conduct and valour of the con-
 “ federate army, though not seconded by your
 “ endeavours, had repulsed the enemy, and rout-
 “ ed their forces, his Highness, we are told,
 “ again sent to you by another of his aids de
 “ camp, and ordered you to pursue the flying
 “ party of the enemy.

“ To these orders, likewise, you are supposed
 “ to have refused obedience. The reasons affirm-
 “ ed to have been given by you in justification
 “ of your refusal, no less disgrace your capacity,
 “ than your refusal itself seems to distinguish
 “ your courage, or your integrity.

“ You

“ You are said to have answered the aid de
 “ camp, who brought you orders for the pur-
 “ suit, that you was a stranger to the road, and
 “ unacquainted with the passes. Had this weak
 “ answer contained the least apology for your
 “ disobedience, yet the supposed reply of the
 “ aid de camp, stripped you even of the shadow
 “ of an excuse, it is asserted, that he offered to
 “ shew you the way himself, and conduct you
 “ with safety.

“ Thus driven to extremity, and left without
 “ the slightest pretence for disobeying the orders
 “ you had received, is it to be believed that you
 “ still demurred, and pushed your expostula-
 “ tions to the verge of mutiny? The answer
 “ that public rumour has put in your mouth is
 “ indeed incredible. It is affirmed, that persisting
 “ in your disobedience, after long hesitation,
 “ you declared, that you did not think it ad-
 “ viseable to hazard his majesty's troops.

“ *Such is the shocking and dismal light in which*
 “ *your conduct is represented.*” A shocking and dis-
 mal light indeed! and only with this one favour-
 able circumstance attending it, THAT IT IS NOT
 TRUE.

It now follows that I consider this affair in the
 light it has come to me. I shall be actuated in
 so doing by nothing but truth and justice.

I. From the time that Lord GEORGE SACK-
 VILLE took upon himself the command of the
 forces

forces in Germany, (or at least for a considerable time before the battle of Minden) the general in chief had not favoured him with any mark of his confidence: he never thought proper to ask his opinion upon any occasion, or to signify to him so much as his general plan of operation. This behaviour was without the smallest provocation given, or any reason assigned.

Quere, Whether any cause, which came within the verge of honourable sufferance, could be assigned, sufficient to authorize this conduct in the general of one nation's forces to that of an ally, circumstanced with regard to each other, as were his Serene Highness and Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE; whether, if the latter had acted amiss in so heinous a manner, the affair should not have been properly represented, that he might have been recalled? and whether, whilst nothing was found fault with, behaving towards him with disrespect, was not an affront to his country, with regard to a man of his abilities, rank, and fortune, a proceeding absolutely unparalleled, and more to the reproach of the person that offered the injury, than to the person who received it?

II. On the evening before the great event, when some intelligence must have been received relating to the intended attack, the British general was left entirely to his own conjectures, as he received no information whatever from the Prince.

Query, Considering the very important command which Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE was supposed

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posed

posed to hold in the confederate army, whether this was prudent with regard to that good understanding which was so necessary to be kept up between the two generals, in order to render the operations of the battle successful: but, considering Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE's avowed skill in the art of war, whether any general in chief, (his Serene Highness excepted) would not, by acting in such a manner, have laid himself open to the censure of self-sufficiency, or being wanting to himself? and whether this did not render it absolutely necessary for Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE to watch over his own conduct, with great circumspection, nothing being left for him but to obey the orders of his superior with the utmost strictness?

III. The first order he received during the battle, was to advance with all the cavalry, *which was immediately complied with, and the men marched with all possible expedition*, when a second order arrived to charge with the British squadrons ONLY. This naturally produced a doubt, and an enquiry, which of the officers was *last* dispatched, when it appeared that they both set out *together*, but that one had outstripped the other by passing through a wood: yet, tho' *contradictory*, each was *positive* in what he delivered. His lordship then desired to be conducted to the Prince, to receive orders from his own mouth, and galloped off for that purpose. The men, after a few minutes stop, being ordered to pursue their *first* destination, when he returned from the Prince, he put himself at the head of the troops, and used his utmost efforts to come up with the enemy, but the infantry had intirely repulsed, and driven them to Minden.

Query,

Query, Whether if this be the positive and impartial truth, Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE must not, in the eyes of all equitable judges, be acquitted of every misdemeanor? for, in the first place it appears, that when the first orders came, he did not hesitate a moment to obey his Highness's command. In the second place it appears, that when the second orders came, which were materially different from the preceding, he only delayed to ask a question, absolutely necessary for him to have answered, viz. Which of the aids de camp set out last? And the propriety of this question is manifest, by its appearing (upon his asking it) that both the aids de camp had set out at the same time; and each positively persisted, that he had brought the order that was to be followed. How would, or could any man have acted in such circumstances? Had not Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE all the reason in the world, from his Serene Highness's conduct towards him, to think himself highly interested in the clearing up of this point. For though his Highness would have been too generous, to be sure, to make use of such an opportunity, yet no man of common prudence, or foresight, would chuse to put it into the power of a person (of whose friendship he was not very well convinced) to accuse him (if he pleased) of disobedience of orders, or error in judgment. And how was this to be avoided?---only by taking the orders immediately from the Prince himself. And to shew that the necessity of this caution was not merely ideal, upon applying to him, his lordship found that the *first* orders were right; and yet, had not he received that information from

indisputable authority, instant thought would naturally have led him to follow the *last*: so that what happened was unavoidably occasioned by the confusion that attended the orders that were sent. And wherever the cause of that is found, there must the blame be laid.

IV. His lordship dined the day after the battle with the captain-general, who did not throw out the least insinuation against his conduct, which, if arraigned, might then have been cleared upon the spot.

Query, Whether in consequence of this, the orders and thanks which were afterwards publicly given, and in which Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE was so remarkably omitted, and pointed out, do not carry too much the air of personal pique? Whether they were not unprecedented? And whether the greatest man of his Serene Highness's family, who is also one of the first and best men in Europe, would have behaved, in a manner equally exceptionable, to the meanest centinel in his army?

I shall not attempt to invalidate the charge of cowardice, venality, disaffection, and I know not what, that have been laid to the charge of this young nobleman, in consequence of his having acted as above stated.

Neither shall I take notice of that invidious attempt to throw this affair into the same light with the unfortunate admiral Byng's. All just and honest men (to which, and which only, I direct
this

this address) will see, and must be convinced, how little room there is for either one or the other.

Yet let me take notice of one thing more in the already-quoted letter-writer. All his account of the second orders of pursuing, the messenger's behaviour thereon, and his Lordship's answer thereto, are rank falsehoods, without even the weakest foundation.

He says, speaking of the orders and compliment of Prince Ferdinand, ensuing the battle: " We must either accuse the commander in chief of public cruelty, and injustice, of *which he cannot be suspected*, or we must conclude that the commander of the right wing was in fault."

Far be it from me to assert any thing to the disadvantage of his Serene Highness the Prince of BRUNSWICK. No; I honour him as the branch of an illustrious house; I respect his abilities as a general; I applaud him as the preserver of his country: but this writer confesses, that Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE has given the best proofs, the only proof, (repeated facts) of his loyalty, courage, and understanding.

Let me then ask any impartial and sensible looker-on, whether the people of England are not more justified by the laws of reason, (supposing either to be allowable) in suspecting a man who is an utter stranger to them, of cruelty and injustice, than a man, of whose whole life they have been constant witnesses, and whose every action has
con-

contributed to fix him in the good opinion, of the most heinous crimes that can possibly stain a military character?

The good-natured insolence of that anonymous letter-writer, in pretending concern that Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE's unfortunate situation should affect an aged father and venerable peer, is enough to raise any one's indignation, who considers in what rank there is great reason to believe the letter-writer is in.

Affected! yes, I believe he is extremely affected and concerned to find his son should have been so ill treated. But I should be glad to know who told the gentleman: whether he received his intelligence from a footman, or the laundress in the family, (tho' it is to be supposed even they would be better informed) that his aged father, and venerable sire, intended to give up his sons cause?

A public inquisition into Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE's conduct, will be of so great an advantage to him, that none but his enemies can wish that it should not take place. He does not design to avoid it; nay, since his arrival, has earnestly requested it. Let the public therefore suspend their judgment till it is over.

The readers, perhaps, might be glad to see what has been here offered in another point of view; I shall, therefore, to shew them that it may be considered in more than one favourable light, subjoin what has been advanced on the
subject

subject by a nervous and spirited writer, in answer to the before-mentioned letter-writer.

“ Has any person of credit explained the particulars of his behaviour to which exceptions have been taken? No. Has any authentic detail of the battle been published? No. Upon what then is the charge founded, which so fatally affects the reputation of this nobleman?---Upon incoherent reports and clamours, raised and propagated no body knows how: upon the silence of Prince FERDINAND, who in complimenting those officers who had signalized themselves in the action, did not include in that compliment a nobleman who was not engaged. By the same way of reasoning, when a man restores to the right owner a purse of money which had been dropped, and receives a compliment upon this instance of honesty, another man chancing to be present, is to be considered as a thief, because he was not likewise complimented for restoring a purse which he had not found.

“ Suppose Lord GEORGE SACKVILLE had no opportunity of acting, would it not have been absurd in Prince FERDINAND to have complimented him upon his gallantry in the action? But our author affirms, that he complimented all the other British general officers: an assertion utterly false: he did not mention the generals ELLIOT and MOSTYN, men whose characters were never impeached; yet by the expositor's way of arguing, they too must be deemed guilty. “ What

" What our author seems to lay great stress
 " upon, is the compliment paid to the Marquis
 " of GRANBY, importing, that if he had been
 " at the head of the British cavalry, the victory
 " would have been more brilliant. This, no
 " doubt, implies a sarcasm upon him who did
 " command the British cavalry; but surely does
 " not amount to a positive charge. If he thought
 " him guilty, why did not he speak his senti-
 " ments freely? Why, did not he put him in ar-
 " rest, and prefer a formal complaint against him
 " to his sovereign? We have the most profound
 " respect for that gallant prince, whom we con-
 " sider as one of the ablest generals, and one of
 " the best men that Germany, fruitful in both,
 " has ever produced: but no man whatever is
 " altogether exempted from human frailties. In
 " the hurry of his spirits he might have uttered
 " an harsh expression from misapprehension, mis-
 " information, passion, and disappointment."

I am convinced to what great disadvantage
 my poor performance must appear, by joining
 this extract with it: but I hope my attempt to
 stop the current of scurrility, and dispel the mist
 of error and misconception, which have risen
 between the public and a person no way deserv-
 ing of their resentment, will be, at least, con-
 sidered as excusable in itself, though ill execut-
 ed; and it is not my design, in this address, to
 prove myself a good writer but an Honest
 Man.

F I N I S.